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SOURCE

Tung-pei Jih-pao

EDITOR EXAMINES PRODUCTION FAILURES

In this editorial, the writer blames indolent cadres for the general failure to meet July and August production quotas in the Northeast and for the consequent difficulty, if not impossibility, of completing the quotas for the third period as well as for the whole of 1950.

A considerable number of state factories and mines in the Northeast have faild to meet their July and August quotas in essential commodities. Production contitions are worse than ever before. There is no comparison with the relatively good months of May and June, when the quotas were completed. Things are even worse than in January (when the quotas were filled for all but a mere 16 essential products).

The third quarter is the most vital single period of the year. The results of this quarter are of decisive significance in terms of success or failure in completing the whole year's quotas. Within this quarter, the July and August production drop should receive the most careful attention.

From the viewpoint of industrial production, our production army has increased in strength, as industry everywhere has solicited laborers in large numbers since the spring of the year. Likewise, plans for the rehabilitation of production facilities have stressed an increase in equipment. Beyond all doubt, these facilities were better in July and August than they were in January. By the same token, the supply of raw materials has also improved since spring. From January to June, production conditions advanced steadily almost every month. This indicates clearly that the production drop during July and August did not arise from insuperable difficulties.

Where, then, lie the roots of the matter? Looking at the conditions described above, we can see clearly that leadership is the key to the problem. Since January, production has risen steadily. In May and June, especially, the production quotas were completed rather well. Certain of our supervisory cacres then adopted a mistaken attitude in assuming that all production quotas would invertably be completed. Consequently they failed to attend to their responsibilities of inspection and surveillance.

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Leadership did not take note of the downward trend in July production, nor were any steps taken to remedy the situation; as a result, there was no improvement in August. Failure to meet the quotas during these two successive months make it extremely difficult to complete the third-period quotas, not to mention the quotas for the whole year. For these reasons, factory and mine cadres in positions of leadership should examine the situation without delay, study means to rectify matters, and set up various systems of responsibility to guarantee completion of the quotas.

The inability to meet July and August production quotas also suggests scrutiny of our systems of responsibility, which are far out of line. The inspection system, in particular, has never been thoroughly understood or applied. From now on, inspections should be made daily and weekly, so that the problems which arise may be solved promptly. A strict system of rewards and penalties must also be established before we can complete the industrial production quotas which the nation has set for us.

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